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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

CALIFORNIA.

The following report of plague-prevention work in California for the week ended May 1, 1915, was received from Passed Asst. Surg. Hurley, of the United States Public Health Service, in temporary charge of the work:

San Francisco, Cal.

RAT PROOFING.		RAT PROOFING—continued.	
New buildings:		Old buildings—Continued.	
Inspections of work under construction.	308	Concrete floors installed (43,010 square feet).....	51
Basements concreted (41,753 square feet)	72	Basements concreted (16,361 square feet)	33
Floors concreted (9,628 square feet).....	22	Yards and passageways, etc., concreted (17,487 square feet)	76
Yards, passageways, etc. (22,649 square feet).....	140	Total area concrete laid (square feet) . . .	76,858
Total area of concrete laid (square feet)..	74,030	Floors rat-proofed with wire cloth (2,750 square feet).....	2
Class A, B, and C (fireproof) buildings:		Buildings razed.....	17
Inspections made.....	271	New garbage cans stamped approved.....	547
Roof and basement ventilators, etc., screened.....	4,710	Nuisances abated.....	557
Wire screening used (square feet).....	23,160		
Openings around pipes, etc., closed with cement.....	8,044		
Sidewalk lens lights replaced.....	24,000		
Old buildings:		OPERATIONS ON THE WATER FRONT.	
Inspections made.....	672	Vessels inspected for rat guards.....	24
Wooden floors removed.....	46	Reinspections made on vessels.....	32
Yards and passageways, planking removed.....	16	New rat guards procured.....	20
New foundation walls installed(cubic feet)	6,180	Defective rat guards repaired.....	16
		Vessels on which cargo was inspected.....	1

AMOUNT OF CARGO INSPECTED AND DESCRIPTION OF SAME.

	Condition.	Rat evidence.
Steamer Governor, from Seattle:		
50 bales rags.....	O. K.....	None.
180 cases cheese, milk, and household goods.....	O. K.....	None.
400 sacks flour, rye, and corn.....	O. K.....	None.
50 tubs lard.....	O. K.....	None.

Rats trapped on wharves and water front.....	18
Rats trapped on vessels.....	18
Traps set on wharves and water front.....	180
Traps set on vessels.....	48
Vessels trapped on.....	10
Poisons placed on water front (pieces).....	3,600
Poisons placed within Panama-Pacific International Exposition grounds.....	7,200
Bait used on water front and vessels: Bacon (pounds).....	6
Amount of bread used in poisoning water front (loaves).....	12
Pounds of poison used on water front.....	6

RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.		RATS IDENTIFIED.	
Collected.....	255	Mus norvegicus.....	120
Examined.....	211	Mus rattus.....	41
Found infected.....	0	Mus alexandrinus.....	62
		Mus musculus.....	32

Squirrels collected and examined for plague.

Contra Costa County.....	410
San Joaquin County.....	125
San Benito County.....	65
Stanislaus County.....	37
Alameda County.....	69
Merced County.....	25
Santa Clara County.....	18
Santa Cruz County.....	9
Total.....	758
Found infected.....	9

Other animals collected and examined for plague.

Alameda County.....	2 rabbits.
San Benito County.....	1 gopher.
	1 weasel.
Total.....	4
Found infected.....	0

Record of plague infection.

Places in California.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number rodents found infected since May, 1907.
Cities:				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908	Oct. 23, 1908	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911	Dec. 1, 1908	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907	None.....	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908	do.....	Aug. 21, 1908	1 squirrel.
Counties:				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley).	Sept. 24, 1903	Oct. 17, 1903 (wood rat.)	Aug. 7, 1914	286 squirrels, 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	May 17, 1914	None.....	Mar. 4, 1915	1,567 squirrels.
Fresno.....	None.....	do.....	Oct. 27, 1911	1 squirrel.
Merced.....	do.....	do.....	July 12, 1911	5 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	Apr. 10, 1914	6 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 4, 1913	do.....	Apr. 13, 1915	37 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 18, 1911	do.....	Aug. 26, 1911	18 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	None.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 31, 1910	do.....	July 23, 1913	25 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None.....	do.....	May 17, 1910	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	June 2, 1911	13 squirrels.

Ranches inspected and hunted over.

Contra Costa County.....	45
Alameda County.....	19
San Benito County.....	30
Stanislaus County.....	3
Santa Clara County.....	9
Merced County.....	8
San Joaquin County.....	12
Santa Cruz County.....	4
Total.....	130

The work is being carried on in the following-named counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Merced, San Joaquin, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus, San Benito, Santa Clara, and San Mateo.

LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at New Orleans for the week ended May 1, 1915, was received from Surg. Creel, of the United States Public Health Service, in temporary charge of the work:

OUTGOING QUARANTINE.		DESTINATION AND NUMBER OF RAILROAD CARS INSPECTED FOR WEEK ENDED MAY 1, 1915—CON.	
Vessels fumigated with sulphur.....	50	Missouri.....	46
Vessels fumigated with carbon monoxide.....	12	Nebraska.....	1
Vessels fumigated with hydrocyanic gas.....	1	New York.....	7
Pounds of sulphur used.....	8,019	Ohio.....	55
Pounds of coke consumed in carbon monoxide fumigation.....	18,000	Oklahoma.....	2
Pounds of potassium cyanide used in hydrocyanic gas fumigation.....	102	Oregon.....	1
Pounds of sodium carbonate used in hydrocyanic gas fumigation.....	120	Pennsylvania.....	2
Pounds of sulphuric acid used in hydrocyanic gas fumigation.....	104	Tennessee.....	31
Clean bills of health issued.....	27	Texas.....	78
Foul bills of health issued.....	11	Wisconsin.....	2
		Canada.....	1
OVERLAND FREIGHT INSPECTION.		FIELD OPERATIONS.	
Cars inspected, found in good order, permitted to load.....	1,752	Rats trapped.....	5,289
Cars ordered repaired before loading.....	1,350	Premises inspected.....	12,470
Total cars inspected.....	3,102	Notices served.....	1,699
DESTINATION AND NUMBER OF RAILROAD CARS INSPECTED FOR WEEK ENDED MAY 1, 1915.		BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED.	
Alabama.....	95	By elevation.....	144
Arizona.....	2	By marginal concrete wall.....	198
Arkansas.....	10	By concrete floor and wall.....	296
California.....	8	By minor repairs.....	432
Carolina, North.....	4	Square yards of concrete laid.....	29,617
Carolina, South.....	1	Total buildings rat proofed.....	1,070
Connecticut.....	1	Total buildings rat proofed to date.....	32,984
Florida.....	30	Number of abatements.....	900
Georgia.....	18	Number of abatements to date.....	24,239
Illinois.....	249	LABORATORY OPERATIONS.	
Indiana.....	18	Rodents examined.....	2,703
Iowa.....	11	Mus norvegicus.....	2,283
Kansas.....	1	Mus rattus.....	81
Kentucky.....	13	Mus alexandrinus.....	154
Louisiana.....	749	Mus musculus.....	2,712
Maryland.....	1	Wood rats.....	42
Michigan.....	6	Putrid.....	137
Minnesota.....	13	Musk rats.....	104
Mississippi.....	154	Total rodents received at laboratory.....	5,371
		Number of suspicious rats.....	1
		Plague rats confirmed.....	0
Last case of human plague, October 4, 1914.			
Last case of rodent plague, March 9, 1915.			
Total number of rodents captured to May 1.....		334,664	
Total number of rodents examined to May 1.....		243,079	
Total cases of rodent plague to May 1, by species:			
Mus musculus.....		4	
Mus rattus.....		16	
Mus norvegicus.....		208	
Mus alexandrinus.....		8	
Total rodent cases to May 1, 1915.....		236	

WASHINGTON—SEATTLE—PLAGUE-ERADICATION.

The following reports of plague-eradication work at Seattle were received from Surg. Lloyd, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

WEEK ENDED APR. 17, 1915.

RAT PROOFING.		CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.	
New buildings inspected.....	47	Mus rattus.....	32
Basements concreted, new buildings (19,450 square feet).....	14	Mus alexandrinus.....	61
Floors concreted, new buildings (39,890 square feet).....	26	Mus norvegicus.....	240
Yards, etc., concreted, new buildings (2,860 square feet).....	4	Mus musculus.....	117
Sidewalks concreted (square feet).....	21,750		450
Total concrete laid, new structures (square feet).....	83,950	WATER FRONT.	
New buildings elevated.....	5	Vessels inspected and histories recorded....	9
New buildings rat proofed, concrete.....	40	Vessels fumigated.....	4
Old buildings inspected.....	5	Sulphur used (pounds).....	2,550
Premises rat proofed, concreted floors, old buildings, (2,760 square feet).....	1	New rat guards installed.....	26
Premises otherwise rat proofed, old buildings	1	Defective rat guards repaired.....	13
Openings screened, old buildings.....	9	Fumigation certificates issued.....	4
Rat holes cemented.....	47	Port sanitary statements issued.....	60
Wooden floors removed.....	1	The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.	
Doors rat proofed, old buildings.....	2	MISCELLANEOUS WORK.	
Wire screen used (square feet).....	786	Rat-proofing notices sent to contractors....	14
Buildings razed.....	2	Fishing vessels inspected and medicine chests installed.....	18
LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.		RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.	
Dead rodents received.....	23	Mus norvegicus trapped.....	69
Rodents trapped and killed.....	395	Mus norvegicus found dead.....	2
Rodents recovered after fumigation.....	32	Mus musculus trapped.....	3
	450		74
Rodents examined for plague infection....	273	Rodents examined for plague infection.....	70
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.	Rodents proven plague infected.....	0
Poison distributed (pounds).....	22	RAT-PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.	
Bodies examined for plague infection.....	2	New buildings inspected.....	2
Bodies found plague infected.....	0	New buildings ratproofed by concrete foundations.....	1
		New buildings ratproofed by elevation....	1

WEEK ENDED APR. 24, 1915.

RAT PROOFING.		LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.	
New buildings inspected.....	47	Dead rodents received.....	12
Basements concreted, new buildings (17,475 square feet).....	9	Rodents trapped and killed.....	346
Floors concreted, new buildings (54,975 square feet).....	32	Rodents recovered after fumigation....	34
Yards, etc., concreted, new structures (1,960 square feet).....	2	Total.....	392
Sidewalks concreted, new structures (square feet).....	38,950	Rodents examined for plague infection....	291
Total concrete laid, new structures (square feet).....	111,360	Rodents found plague infected.....	0
New buildings elevated.....	7	Poison distributed, pounds.....	31
New premises rat proofed, concrete.....	41	Bodies examined for plague infection....	2
Old buildings inspected.....	5	Bodies found plague infected.....	0
Premises rat proofed, concrete, old buildings.....	1	CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.	
Floors concreted, old buildings.....	1	Mus rattus.....	29
Wooden floors removed, old buildings.....	1	Mus alexandrinus.....	56
Buildings razed.....	2	Mus norvegicus.....	224
		Mus musculus.....	83
		Total.....	392

WATER FRONT.	
Vessels inspected and histories recorded....	12
Vessels fumigated.....	2
Sulphur used, pounds.....	1,800
New rat guards installed.....	37
Defective rat guards repaired.....	11
Fumigation certificates issued.....	2
Port sanitary statements issued.....	36

The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.

MISCELLANEOUS WORK.	
Rat-proofing notices sent to contractors....	16
Letters sent property owners and others....	315
Letters sent on rat complaints.....	15
Fishing vessels inspected and medicine chests installed.....	8

RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.	
Mus norvegicus trapped.....	84
Mus musculus trapped.....	6
Total.....	90
Rodents examined for plague infection....	82
Rodents proven plague infected.....	0

RAT-PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.	
New buildings inspected.....	2
New buildings rat proofed by concrete foundations.....	1
New buildings rat proofed by elevation....	1

HAWAII—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The following reports of plague-prevention work in Hawaii were received from Surg. Trotter, of the United States Public Health Service:

Honolulu.

WEEK ENDED APR. 24, 1915.

Total rats and mongoose taken.....	447	Classification of rats killed by sulphur dioxide:	
Rats trapped.....	437	Mus alexandrinus.....	2
Mongoose trapped.....	8	Average number of traps set daily.....	1,085
Rats killed by sulphur dioxide.....	2	Cost per rat destroyed, 19½ cents.	
Examined microscopically.....	345	Last case rat plague, Aiea, 9 miles from Honolulu,	
Showing plague infection.....	0	Apr. 12, 1910.	
Classification of rats trapped:		Last case human plague, Honolulu, July 12, 1910.	
Mus alexandrinus.....	232	Last case rat plague, Kalopa stable, Paauhau, Ha-	
Mus musculus.....	106	wai, Aug. 29, 1914.	
Mus norvegicus.....	67	Last case human plague, Paauhau Landing, Ha-	
Mus rattus.....	32	wai, Aug. 17, 1914.	

Hilo.

WEEK ENDED APR. 3, 1915.¹

Rats and mongoose taken.....	2,332	Rats and mongoose plague infected.....	0
Rats trapped.....	2,305	Classification of rats trapped and found dead:	
Rats found dead.....	0	Mus norvegicus.....	460
Mongoose taken.....	27	Mus alexandrinus.....	374
Rats and mongoose examined microscopically.....	2,332	Mus rattus.....	775
		Mus musculus.....	696

WEEK ENDED APR. 10, 1915.

Rats and mongoose taken.....	2,452	Rats and mongoose plague infected.....	0
Rats trapped.....	2,398	Classification of rats trapped and found dead:	
Rats found dead.....	2	Mus norvegicus.....	467
Mongoose taken.....	52	Mus alexandrinus.....	405
Rats and mongoose examined macroscopically.....	2,452	Mus rattus.....	843
Rats and mongoose examined microscopically.....	1	Mus musculus.....	685
Rats and mongoose examined bacteriologically.....	1	Last case of rat plague, Paauhau Sugar Company,	
		Aug. 29, 1914.	
		Last case of human plague, Paauhau Sugar Company, Aug. 16, 1914.	

PORTO RICO—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

During the two weeks ended April 24, 1915, 528 rodents (rats and mice) were examined in Porto Rico. No plague infection was found. The rodents were collected at San Juan, Puerta de Tierra, and Santurce.

¹Report for week ended Mar. 27, 1915, not received.